

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the specification by replacing the paragraph beginning on page 15 at line 8 with the following:

For Algorithm 1, the inventors determined equation (7) experimentally for the MPEG-4 standard from a large number of background composites using linear regression. Further, equation (8) was derived by solving for B_{CB} in equations (3) and (5). Moreover, the inventors experimentally determined Table 1 2, which indicates how the background compression ratio R_B changes as the estimated background quantization step Q_B ' changes from 1 to 31. If an encoding technique other than the MPEG-4 standard is used, the constants in equation (7) and the values in Table 1 2 can be determined by those of ordinary skill through experimentation with the alternative encoding technique.